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Sent: Monday, February 07, 2022 6:54 PM
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Subject: Strategic Update - 2022 02 07

STRATEGIC UPDATES FOR DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-07 at 1800 hours.

Opposition to Public Health Measures

Open Source Reporting

Social media messaging indicates that a province-wide school walkout is being organized for 2022-02-11 with the goal of ending mask mandates and all restrictions. Few additional details are available at this time, updates to follow.,

ASSESSMENT

Currently, there is no specific, identified threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among participants in or supporters of opposition activities.

Freedom Convoy 2022 (Ottawa)

Police Reporting

The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reported lower numbers of protestors at Parliament Hill today, with approximately 200 protestors present on Wellington Street and surrounding area. It is estimated that there are 418 trucks remaining in the downtown core. Reporting indicates that there were no notable conflicts between protestors and counter-protestors.

OPP reporting noted that on 2022-02-06, while issuing a ticket to a protestor, two uniformed OPS members were surrounded by other protestors described as vocal and aggressive. A convoy participant reportedly intervened to de-escalate the situation.

OPP reporting notes increased tensions and verbal confrontations between convoy participants and counter-protestors, who mainly appear to be Ottawa residents.

Police have been advised by protest organizers that approximately 200 trucks are coming in from Quebec over the next 12 hours and will be attending Route 200/Guillaume (Russell County).

The OPS continues to release messaging to the public that anyone attempting to bring material supports (ie. gas, etc.) to protestors could be subject to arrest.

OPS reported that 7 people were arrested and over 100 tickets had been issued in protest-related enforcement actions. OPS also indicated there are over 60 criminal investigations related to the protest thus far, primarily for mischief, thefts, hate crimes and property damage.

Open Source Reporting

Media reporting notes the Mayor of the City of Ottawa and Chief of Ottawa Police Service have requested federal and provincial government support in securing the deployment of 1800 additional police officers (1000 regular officers, 600 public order officers, 100 investigative officers and 100 civilian staff) to “quell the insurrection that the Ottawa Police Service is not able to contain”.

Social media messaging suggests that individuals are collecting donated supplies in northern Ontario and transporting them to the blockade in Ottawa. The most recent social media messaging indicates that the individuals have departed North Bay and are en route to Ottawa.

The new Freedom Convoy 2022 fundraiser on GiveSendGo has raised almost \$4.7 M USD, and a Bitcoin wallet for the blockade contains almost \$500,000 CAD. The ADOPT A TRUCKER account on GiveSendGo has raised almost \$452,000 USD.

Ambassador Bridge

Police Reporting

The Ambassador Bridge is not blocked at this time, contrary to earlier social media information. A convoy attempting to disrupt operations at the Ambassador Bridge became disjointed and a portion of the convoy stopped to reconvene. Windsor Police Service moved protestors along without incident.

Toronto Demonstrations

Police Reporting

Police reporting noted minimal activity in the Queen’s Park area today, with no issues to report.

Open Source Reporting

Nothing significant to report.

Other Potential Activity

Local convoy actions are anticipated in jurisdictions across the province, please see the updated event schedule for additional information.

Open Source Reporting

Social media messaging has called for peaceful protests in all jurisdictions that have provided police personnel to Ottawa.

ASSESSMENT

The protest landscape related to public health restrictions and vaccine mandates is fluid and dynamic, with solidarity demonstrations or convoys continuing to develop in many jurisdictions. Organized and pop-up protests, convoys and solidarity actions at the local level, including blockades at international ports of entry, should be expected for the foreseeable future. The potential for conflict amongst individuals and groups with differing agendas at

these protests persists, which could pose both a public safety and officer safety threat. At this juncture, there is no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest and Operation BearHug 2.0 activity. However, the possibility that a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a physical threat with little or no warning cannot be excluded.

EVENT SCHEDULE

February 7, 2022

- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)
- **Windsor: Local Convoy** - Ambassador Bridge
- **Sarnia: Local Convoy** – Blue Water Bridge (unconfirmed)

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